



Title: the beauty of church – walking in the light
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Abundant life – is this real?

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

What did Jesus mean with abundant life?

To understand abundant life, we need to understand the gift of eternal life.

The gift of eternal life refers not only to duration of life, but to quality of life.

If the gift of eternal life is quality of life, why do we not always experience this on a daily basis?

1. Let's blame the devil

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

2. We do not position ourselves correctly, we are not in a safe place.

3. For those of us in church, we do not always follow God's guidelines.

1 major tool/key that can lead to abundant life:

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Walking in the light: What is that?

- Willing to open up, willing to share, willing to be teachable, transparent about what you do and think when no one else sees and observes.
- Allowing someone to challenge you, to speak into your life, even if it is uncomfortable.

Walking in the light is grace in action.

Proverbs 28:13

He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

RESULT OF WALKING IN THE LIGHT:

1. Fellowship with one another

You will never have true fellowship if you do not walk in the light, if you do not share your heart.

2. Cleansing

James 5:16

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

- **Accountability leads to cleansing & healing.** (accountability not always a once off confession, but an ongoing process)
- **Cleansing & healing leads to abundant life.**

Lifestyle of walking in the light

Proverbs 5:18&19 (NLT)

The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, which shines ever brighter until the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like total darkness. They have no idea what they are stumbling over.